AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 of page 38 and ending on line 23 of page 38 as follows:

Fig. 5 is a flow diagram that describes, in general terms, the operation of preferred_measurements_set for a given requirements set, $\Phi = \{\pi\kappa = (R_i, R_j), \kappa = 1, 2, ..., P\}$, and the corresponding P x (N+M) matrix F. First, the A matrix is set to identity matrix (I) (step 500). For each row up to the last independent row (step 505), the following actions are performed. The next non-zero row of F is identified, if there is such a row that still has not been examined (step 510). If such a row is successfully identified (i.e., $F_j \neq 0$) (step [[5015]]$\underline{515}$), the rows of F are re-arranged (step 520). Corresponding rows and columns of A are also re-arranged, as are pairs of routers in Φ (steps 525, 530 and 535). At this point in the process, row $F_k \neq 0$. The corresponding non-zero element $(F(k,j) \neq 0)$ is then found (step 540). Once the F matrix and X matrix have been prepared for pivoting (by ensuring that pivot $F(k,k) \neq 0$) (step 545), a pivot operation is performed on the F matrix (step 550). A pivot operation is also performed on the A matrix (step 555). At this point the value of Q (the number of independent rows (i.e., rank) of F is known, and the for Q rows of F are independent. Thus, the preferred measurements set can then be populated with the router pairs corresponding to the independent rows of F (step 560). Vectors that allow the non-independent rows of F to be described in terms of the independent rows of F $(\alpha\kappa, \kappa = Q+1, ..., P)$ are then defined (step 565). Finally, values for Q, Ω, and α_κ $(\kappa = Q+1, ..., P)$ are returned (step 570). The preceding process can be expressed more formally in the following manner.